

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 022084

TOKYO FOR USAEC

EO11652 NA

TAGS: TECH, BMEP, RP

SUBJ: PHILIPPINE NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT-FEASIBILITY

STUDY; U S FUEL SUPPLY UNDER U S -GOP ATOMIC

ENERGY AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION

1. IN CONNECTION WITH NPC'S CONSIDERATION NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT IT, AND GOP, KEEP IN MIND CERTAIN CONSIDERATIONS IF ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL SUPPLY WILL BE SOUGHT UNDER 1968 US-PHILIPPINE AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION. USAEC REPS. HAD OPPORTUNITY IN DECEMBER TO DISCUSS FUELING MATTER WITH ERNEST LEUNG, WASHINGTON REP. OF PHILIPPINE CENTRAL BANK AT GOP EMBASSY, WHO INTENDED TO RELAY THE AEC INFORMATION TO QUOTE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES UNQUOTE IN MANILA. COPIES OF THE ITEMS FURNISHED LEUNG, AS WELL AS THE CURRENT AGREEMENT UNCLASSIFIED
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FOR COOPERATION, ARE BEING AIRPOUCHED TO EMBASSY PRIORITY.

2. THE KEY CONSIDERATION IS THAT ANY PHILIPPINE POWER REACTOR NEEDING INITIAL CORE DELIVERIES OF US ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL BEFORE JULY 1, 1982, MUST BE COVERED BY A FUEL SUPPLY CONTRACT EXECUTED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30, 1974. (THE POUCHED INFORMATION PROVIDES BACKGROUND ON THIS DEADLINE. FURTHER, THE DEADLINE WAS COVERED IN AN AEC LETTER ON CONTRACTING POLICY SENT TO GOP EMBASSY WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER 1973. COPY BEING AIRPOUCHED TO AMEMBASSY MANILA.)

3. THERE ARE TWO 500-MWE REACTOR PROJECTS IDENTIFIED IN THE APPENDIX TO THE CURRENT AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION FOR WHICH ALLOCATIONS OF U-235 HAVE BEEN MADE FOR FUELING THEM. THESE ALLOCATIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE INDEFINITELY (SEE ARTICLE IX, PARAGRAPHS C AND D OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT); FURTHER, THE FUELING OF THE PROJECTS IS SUBJECT TO THE AEC'S PREVAILING CONTRACTING POLICY, WHICH NOW INCLUDES THE ABOVE-NOTED DEADLINE. LARGER U-235 REQUIREMENTS AND/OR COVERAGE OF ADDITIONAL REACTORS WOULD REQUIRE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONSULT WITH APPROPRIATE GOP OFFICIALS RE INTEREST IN U S FUEL SUPPLY, RECALL THE JUNE 30 DEADLINE, AND RELAY COMMENTS ASAP.
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